

Project: Scientific methods to study animal behavior

(Project idea report dues: October 31)

- Animal models: choose any animal you like (including humans).
- Observe behavior for at least 30 mins per period. Observe at least 2 periods (the more the better). and observe its behavior at different time of day or under different social circumstances, which may provide a lot of information.
- Document everything you observe and try to **quantify** it.
For example: How many times does the animal feed ? How long does it take to perform that behavior (minutes).
- Analyze your observed data, make a graph (using Excel, for example).
- Come up with proximate and ultimate questions, based on your observation data.
- First report should include the following sections (minimum 3 pages)
 - A. Title
 - B. Introduction (why you are choosing this animal or why this behavior is interesting to you)
 - C. Methods (how do you observe the animals, where, when, what are you observing)
 - D. Results (your observation results and graphs)
 - E. Your proximate/ultimate questions;